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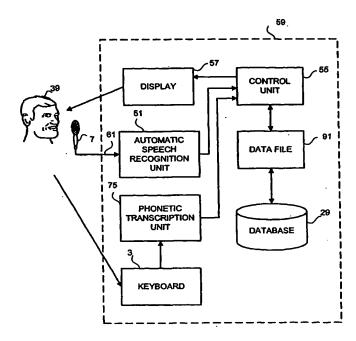
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(54) Title: LATTICE MATCHING



(57) Abstract: A system is described for matching lattices such as phoneme lattices generated by an automatic speech recognition unit. The system can be used to retrieve files from a database by comparing a query lattice with annotation lattices associated with the data files that can be retrieved, and by retrieving the data files having an annotation lattice most similar to the query lattice.